Atty Dkt No. FMC 1243 PUS / 81056821 (200-0549)

S/N: 09/662,582 Reply to Office Action of April 16, 2004

Remarks

The Applicants would like to thank Examiner McClellan for his attention to and

thorough review of this case.

Following the Examiner's recommendation, the Applicants have amended

independent claim 18 to include the limitations of dependent claim 19, now canceled. Claims

20-26 are patentable at least because they depend from proper independent claim 18, as

amended. (MPEP 2143.03.)

The Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's

April 6, 2004 Office Action in view of the Examiner's comments and the prior art of record.

The submitted claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, which is respectfully

requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: <u>July 6, 2004</u>

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